IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No:

To Be Assigned

Applicant:

Gerhard BERGER et al.

Filed:

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Mail Stop PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 18, 2005

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicant requests that the following Amendments be made in the above-identified matter prior to examination thereof:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 5 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.